

**RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ADOPT COMMON SENSE
GUN REFORM MEASURES**

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2022, an 18-year-old armed with an assault weapon murdered 19 children and two adult teachers during a mass shooting at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2022, a racist attack at a grocery store in a predominantly Black neighborhood in Buffalo, New York, left 10 Black residents dead from injuries caused by another 18-year-old individual armed with an assault rifle; and

WHEREAS, the United States has seen more than 200 mass shootings in 2022, with 27 occurring at schools, a rate of frequency that averages approximately 10 mass shootings a week; and

WHEREAS, a recent report from the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions which analyzed CDC firearm fatality data for 2020 found that guns were the leading cause of death among children and teens in 2020; and

WHEREAS, there is broad bipartisan support in communities across the United States for common-sense measures that restrict access to weapons of war and reduce the possibility of mass shooting events; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021, on March 11th of last year with overwhelming support, which if enacted would require that nearly every gun sale in the U.S. be subject to a background check, including “private sales” at gun shows and those conducted over the internet; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Senate has been unable to pass this common-sense gun reform legislation, which reflects an era of deep political division and an unwillingness to address an actual life-or-death issue for countless families across this country; and

WHEREAS, the City of Troy has experienced our own tragedies involving gun violence, some of which resulted in the death of young children caused by illegally obtained guns which are brought from neighboring states to communities across New York, including Troy; and

WHEREAS, background checks for private sales would help reduce the flow of guns into our state and reduce these incidents that have become all too common; and

WHEREAS, residents, neighbors, and elected leaders in Troy need to speak up and advocate for reasonable measures from the federal government that limit access to assault weapons and implement processes that prevent future violent incidents involving guns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Troy, New York, in City Council convened:

(1) extends its condolences to the victims of the recent mass shooting events in Uvalde, TX, and Buffalo, NY;

(2) calls on the United States Congress, specifically the U.S. Senate, to approve common-sense gun reform legislation, including H.R. 8, that would implement a federal background check for purchases of firearms, implement waiting periods, and reduce access to guns and other assault weapons;

(3) calls on the Executive and Legislative offices of municipalities across the country to join us in urging the U.S. Congress to swiftly take common sense steps to protect our communities from the senseless carnage that results from unfettered access to guns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the City transmit copies of this Resolution to the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Leader of the House of Representatives Republican Caucus.

Approved as to form, _____, 2022

Richard T. Morrissey, Corporation Counsel